

Dockets Management Branch [HFA-305]
Food and Drug Administration
5630 Fishers Lane, Rm. 1061
Rockville, MD 20852

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Docket #98N-1038

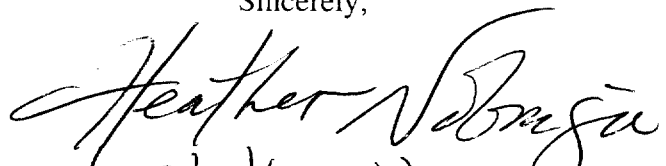
To Whom it May Concern,

As a concerned citizen I demand all food treated with irradiation, and all processed foods that contain ingredients that have been irradiated, be labeled as such with clear and prominent lettering, accompanied by the irradiated symbol--the radura. To remove or obscure labeling that indicates the product has been treated with irradiation is misleading [pasturized milk is clearly labeled].

Clear concise lettering is important for consumer information and education. Our citizenry has a right to be informed and knowledgeable about the food source and how the food has been processed. Research has proven irradiation: lowers nutrient content by destroying essential vitamins and minerals like C, K, E, and B-complex; and creates new chemicals in foods called radiolytic products, some of which are known carcinogens. Also there has not been a study on the long-term affect of a diet composed of irradiated foods.

These issues are of great concern, and bring to question the validity of irradiation as a food treatment process. In addition, these concerns resoundingly illuminate the absolute need for prominent labeling on all irradiated foods.

Sincerely,


Heather Nobriga

P.S. As a conscious consumer I'm keeping a close tab on 'dangerous technologies' corporations want to use on our food. I also communicate with groups of my neighbors, sharing all the information I gather. We are aware and informed and actively educate our retail food chains concerning these issues. We hope that you will hear the majority voice of the people who are the consumers, not the persuasive arguments of the producers.

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